

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2196

To create and expand innovative teacher and principal preparation programs known as teacher and principal preparation academies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2013

Mr. PETRI (for himself and Mr. POLIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To create and expand innovative teacher and principal preparation programs known as teacher and principal preparation academies.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Growing Education Achievement Training Academies for
6 Teachers and Principals Act” or the “GREAT Teachers
7 and Principals Act”.

8 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
9 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Purpose.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

Sec. 4. State grants.

Sec. 5. Subgrants to teacher or principal preparation academies.

Sec. 6. Coordination with the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Sec. 7. Authorization of appropriations.

1 SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

2 The purpose of this Act is to encourage innovation
3 in the field of teacher and principal preparation by cre-
4 ating and expanding teacher or principal preparation
5 academies that will increase the number of effective teach-
6 ers and principals serving in high-needs schools and hard-
7 to-staff subjects, such as science, technology, engineering,
8 mathematics, and computer science.

9 SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

10 In this Act:

11 (1) PRINCIPAL PREPARATION ACADEMY.—The
12 term “principal preparation academy” means a pub-
13 lic or other nonprofit institution for preparing prin-
14 cipals that—

15 (A) enters into a charter with a State au-
16 thorizer that specifies the goals and outcomes
17 expected of the principal preparation academy
18 and the obligations of the State authorizer, in-
19 cluding—

20 (i) a requirement that—

21 (I) principal candidates, or prin-
22 cipals serving on alternative certifi-

1 of success in getting a school's students on
2 track to being college and career ready;

3 (iv) a requirement that the principal
4 preparation academy survey the academy's
5 alumni not less than once every 3 years to
6 track the number of alumni employed as
7 principals and in education; and

8 (v) timelines for producing cohorts of
9 graduates and conferring certificates of
10 completion (or degrees, if the principal
11 preparation academy is, or is affiliated
12 with, an institution of higher education)
13 from the principal preparation academy;

14 (B) shall not have unnecessary restrictions
15 on the methods the principal preparation acad-
16 emy will use to train principal candidates, in-
17 cluding restrictions or requirements—

18 (i) obligating the faculty of the prin-
19 cipal preparation academy faculty to hold
20 advanced degrees;

21 (ii) obligating such faculty to conduct
22 academic research;

23 (iii) related to the physical infrastruc-
24 ture of the principal preparation academy;
25 or

(iv) related to the number of course credits required as part of the program of study; and

(C) limits admission to its program to candidates who demonstrate strong potential to be effective principals, based on a rigorous, competency-based selection process that reviews a candidate's prior academic achievement or record of professional accomplishment.

(2) STATE AUTHORIZER.—The term “State authorizer” means an entity designated by the State to recognize teacher or principal preparation academies within the State that—

(A) may be a nonprofit organization, State educational agency, or other public entity, or consortium of such entities (including a consortium of States); and

(B) does not renew a teacher or principal preparation academy's charter if the academy fails to produce the minimum number or percentage of effective teachers or principals, respectively, identified in the academy's charter.

(3) TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL PREPARATION

ACADEMY.—The term “teacher or principal prepara-

1 tion academy” means a teacher preparation academy
2 or a principal preparation academy.

(A) enters into a charter with a State authorizer that specifies the goals and outcomes expected of the teacher preparation academy and the obligations of the State authorizer, including—

12 (i) a requirement that—

(I) teacher candidates, or teachers teaching on alternative certificates, licenses, or credentials, who are enrolled in the teacher preparation academy receive a significant part of their training through clinical preparation that partners teacher candidates with mentor teachers with a demonstrated track record of success in improving academic achievement in the classroom; and

links to the clinical preparation experience;

21 (iv) a requirement that the teacher
22 preparation academy survey the academy's
23 alumni not less than once every 3 years to
24 track the number of alumni employed as
25 teachers and in education; and

(v) timelines for producing cohorts of graduates and conferring certificates of completion (or degrees, if the teacher preparation academy is, or is affiliated with, an institution of higher education) from the teacher preparation academy;

(B) shall not have unnecessary restrictions on the methods or inputs the teacher preparation academy will use to train teacher candidates or teachers teaching on alternative certificates, licenses, or credentials, including restrictions or requirements—

(i) obligating the faculty of the teacher preparation academy to hold advanced degrees;

(ii) obligating such faculty to conduct academic research;

(iii) related to the physical infrastructure of the teacher preparation academy;

(iv) related to the number of course credits required as part of the program of study;

(v) related to the undergraduate coursework completed by teachers teaching on alternative certificates, licenses, or cre-

1 dentals, as long as such teachers have suc-
2 cessfully passed all relevant State-approved
3 content area examinations; or
4 (vi) related to obtaining additional ac-
5 creditation from a national accrediting
6 body; and
7 (C) limits admission to its program to can-
8 didates who demonstrate strong potential to be
9 effective teachers, based on a rigorous selection
10 process that reviews a candidate's prior aca-
11 demic achievement or record of professional ac-
12 complishment.

13 **SEC. 4. STATE GRANTS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
15 award grants to States having applications approved
16 under subsection (b) to enable such States to create or
17 expand teacher or principal preparation academies.

18 (b) APPLICATIONS.—Each State that desires a grant
19 under this Act shall submit an application to the Secretary
20 at such time, in such manner, and containing such infor-
21 mation as the Secretary may reasonably require. The ap-
22 plication shall include—

23 (1) an assurance that the State does not have
24 in place legal, statutory, or regulatory barriers to the

1 creation or operation of teacher or principal prepara-
2 tion academies;

3 (2) a description of how the State will promote
4 the creation and expansion of teacher or principal
5 preparation academies;

6 (3) a description of how the authorization and
7 approval of teacher or principal preparation acad-
8 emies is separate and distinct from the requirements
9 otherwise established by the State for approval of
10 other teacher or principal preparation programs;

11 (4) a description of the process the State au-
12 thorizer will use to authorize and approve a teacher
13 or principal preparation academy that—

14 (A) enables participants in the academy to
15 be eligible for State financial aid to the same
16 extent as participants in other State-approved
17 teacher or principal preparation programs, in-
18 cluding alternative certification, licensure, or
19 credential programs;

20 (B) enables teachers who are teaching on
21 alternative certificates, licenses, or credentials
22 to teach in the State while enrolled in a teacher
23 preparation academy; and

24 (C) enables graduates from teacher prepa-
25 ration academies to be eligible to teach in such

1 State and graduates from principal preparation
2 academies to be eligible to be a principal in a
3 school in such State;

4 (5) a description of the process the State au-
5 thorizer will use to monitor the success of—

6 (A) a teacher preparation academy in—

7 (i) producing effective teachers that
8 demonstrate a track record of success in
9 getting students on track to being college
10 and career ready, based on multiple meas-
11 ures of student achievement; and

12 (ii) preparing teachers to teach in
13 high-needs schools or hard-to-staff sub-
14 jects; and

15 (B) a principal preparation academy in—

16 (i) producing effective principals that
17 demonstrate a track record of success in
18 getting students in a school on track to
19 being career and college ready; and

20 (ii) preparing principals to serve in
21 high-needs schools or hard-to-staff sub-
22 jects;

23 (6) the criteria the State authorizer will apply
24 in renewing or denying a teacher or principal prepa-
25 ration academy's charter, including the minimum

1 number and percentage of effective teachers or prin-
2 cipals such academy must produce in order to renew
3 its charter; and

4 (7) an assurance that the State will recognize
5 a certificate of completion (from a teacher or prin-
6 cipal preparation academy that is not, or is unaffili-
7 ated with, an institution of higher education), as at
8 least the equivalent of a master's degree in edu-
9 cation for the purposes of teacher or principal hir-
10 ing, retention, compensation, and promotion in the
11 State.

12 (c) USES OF FUNDS.—A State receiving a grant
13 under this Act shall use grant funds to—

14 (1) implement a process by which to—
15 (A) create or designate State authorizers;
16 and
17 (B) create or approve teacher or principal
18 preparation academies;
19 (2) support, directly or through a nonprofit
20 intermediary organization, the establishment and op-
21 eration of teacher or principal preparation academies
22 by assisting entities with the planning, program de-
23 sign, and implementation of such programs; and

1 (3) award subgrants to teacher or principal
2 preparation academies in the State in accordance
3 with section 5.

4 **SEC. 5. SUBGRANTS TO TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL PREPARA-**
5 **TION ACADEMIES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts made available
7 under section 4(c)(3), a State shall award subgrants to
8 nonprofit entities to carry out activities described in sub-
9 section (d).

10 (b) APPLICATIONS.—Each nonprofit entity desiring a
11 subgrant under this section from a State shall submit an
12 application to a State authorizer designated by the State
13 to receive such applications. The application shall include,
14 at a minimum—

15 (1) a description of the teacher or principal
16 preparation academy's proposed curriculum, training
17 of teacher or principal candidates (including clinical
18 training), and approach to teacher or principal de-
19 velopment;

20 (2) the student achievement outcomes the entity
21 will require of academy graduates before conferring
22 a degree or certificate of completion from the pro-
23 gram, with timelines for obtaining such outcomes;

24 (3) a multi-year financial and operating model
25 for the entity;

1 (4) the qualifications of the entity's chief executive officer or organization leader; and

3 (5) a description of how the teacher or principal preparation academy is designed to prepare teachers or principals to serve in high-need areas (including rural areas and Native American communities), or hard-to-staff subjects.

8 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding subgrants under this section, a State shall give a priority to entities proposing to expand previously existing teacher or principal preparation programs, as of the date of application, with a demonstrated track record of success in getting students on track to being college and career ready.

14 (d) USES OF FUNDS.—An entity that receives a subgrant under this section shall use its subgrant—

16 (1) to establish a teacher or principal preparation academy;

18 (2) to expand the capacity of a teacher or principal preparation academy;

20 (3) to measure the effectiveness of a teacher or principal preparation academy in improving student academic achievement, as demonstrated by getting students on track to be college and career ready; or

24 (4) to recruit candidates for a teacher or principal preparation academy who have demonstrated

1 strong potential to be effective teachers or prin-
2 cipals, based on a rigorous, competency-based selec-
3 tion process that reviews a candidate's prior aca-
4 demic achievement or record of professional accom-
5 plishment.

6 SEC. 6. COORDINATION WITH THE CORPORATION FOR NA- 7 TIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.

8 (a) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Secretary
9 shall enter into an interagency agreement with the Cor-
10 poration for National and Community Service under sec-
11 tion 121(b) of the National and Community Service Act
12 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12571(b)) under which the Corpora-
13 tion shall approve positions, for candidates at each teacher
14 or principal preparation academy that receives financial
15 assistance under this Act, as approved national service po-
16 sitions, as defined in section 101 of the National and Com-
17 munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511). Such
18 interagency agreement shall specify how a degree or cer-
19 tificate of completion for a term of service as a participant
20 at a teacher or principal preparation academy will be sub-
21 mitted to the Corporation.

(b) SPECIAL RULE.—Notwithstanding section 148 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12604), the Secretary and the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community

1 Service shall develop a program under which national serv-
2 ice educational awards may be disbursed to a teacher or
3 principal preparation academy to cover or reimburse the
4 costs of attending the academy.

5 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
7 this Act such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal
8 years 2014 through 2018.

